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INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE
FOR THE ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN
THOSE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS
DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY
IN AFRICA
Eighth session
5-16 February 1996
Agenda item 7

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS EIGHTH SESSION

Draft report

Acting Rapporteur: Mr. José Urrutia (Peru)

Addendum

IV. STATUS OF SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION

1. The Committee held a discussion on the question of the status of signature and ratification of the Convention (agenda item 4) at its 2nd and 6th meetings, on 6 and 12 February 1996.

2. The Executive Secretary of the interim secretariat informed the Committee that 25 countries had ratified the Convention.

3. A number of countries indicated that they had finalized or that they were in the process of ratifying the Convention.

4. The representative of the Russian Federation stated that his Government had decided not to sign the Convention. In taking the decision whether or not to accede to the Convention, the Russian Federation would first take into account whether the status of the Russian Federation as a country with an economy in transition would be considered.

5. The Chairman stated that the discussion held would indicate that the Convention was likely to enter into force this year and recalled that the General Assembly, in its resolution 50/112 of 20 December, indicated that the Conference of the Parties would be held in the second and third weeks of August 1997. The Chairman added that it would be preferable to hold the Conference in the first two weeks of September 1997.